

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Merri Nelson began her working career as a home economics and junior high science teacher in Frederick and Aberdeen Roncalli schools for 10 years, and, in 1979, she joined the South Dakota Department of Health as a regional nutritionist for the WIC Program and the Family Day Care Food Program; and,

Whereas, In 1988, Merri became a nutrition supervisor for the state WIC office, providing program direction and support to local nutrition staff and WIC offices across the state, and in 1996, she became a public health regional manager for the department's Aberdeen region until the present time; and,

Whereas, Merri has been a valued member of the Office of Community Health Management Team, providing positive leadership and a wealth of knowledge to Community Health staff in the provision of department program services and serving as a mentor and supportive peer of other Community Health Management staff; and,

Whereas, Merri also played a leadership role for the department in emergency preparedness activities such as flood response, and has served as a department Point of Dispensing Coordinator, leading the local group to successful influenza vaccination activities; and,

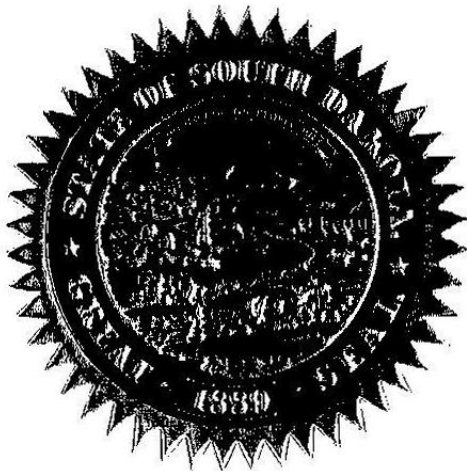
Whereas, Merri is a loving wife, mother, and grandmother of three granddaughters and two grandsons; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper as Governor to recognize this outstanding South Dakotan as her colleagues gather to honor her on April 30, 2010, for her past 30 years and 6 months to serving the public health needs of this great state:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 7, 2010, as

MERRI NELSON DAY

in South Dakota, and I join her many friends, colleagues, and family in offering best wishes for an enjoyable retirement.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-sixth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Ten.

M. Michael Rounds
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest
Chris Nelson
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State